

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a community Ethernet switch comprising:
 - at least one network interface circuit each coupled to an end user and an exchange through a first line so as to control a data packet transmission between each end user and said exchange for managing a transmission and a receiving of said data packet;
 - a second line coupled between said exchange and said Ethernet switch so that said exchange is ~~capable of monitoring and managing~~ arranged to monitor and manage said Ethernet switch and packet messages under monitor and management are sent to said Ethernet switch from said exchange; ~~and~~
 - a simple network management protocol (SNMP) installed on said Ethernet switch for setting a management value of a management information base (MIB) so that said Ethernet switch is ~~capable of monitoring~~ arranged to monitor said at least one network interface circuit based on said management value; and
 - a detection loop on each network interface circuit arranged so that, based on said management value of said MIB, said Ethernet switch transmits enable or disable signals to each detection loop for activation, performs a loop detection on each network interface circuit, writes a test result into said MIB, and commands said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange.
2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said Ethernet switch is ~~capable of writing~~ arranged to write a test result into said MIB, commanding said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange for analysis and determination by network management personnel.

Serial Number 09/888,421

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each network interface is a very high speed digital subscriber line (VDSL) interface circuit.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said second line is a fiber-optic line and a transmission thereof is performed on a cable modem for transmitting said management packet messages.

6. (Currently Amended) A community Ethernet switch comprising:

an Ethernet switching circuit for either receiving data packets from an exchange or sending said data packets to said exchange through a first line;

a network management control circuit for receiving network management packets from said exchange through a second line and based on said received network management packets for setting a management value of a management information base (MIB) of a simple network management protocol (SNMP) by said SNMP; and

a plurality of network interface circuits each coupled to an Ethernet NIC at an end user and said exchange;

wherein each network interface circuit transmits a management value of said MIB to said Ethernet switching circuit through a bus ~~so arranged such that~~, based on said management value, said Ethernet switching circuit ~~is capable of monitoring~~ monitors said network interface circuits, ~~writing~~ writes a test result into said MIB, and ~~commanding~~ commands said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange for analysis and determination by network management personnel, and

wherein each network interface circuit comprises a detection loop coupled to said Ethernet switching circuit and arranged such that, based on said management value of said MIB, said Ethernet switching circuit transmits enable or disable signals to each detection loop for activation, performs a loop detection on each network interface circuit, writes a test result into said MIB, and commands said SNMP to collect said result for transmitting to said exchange.

Serial Number 09/888,421

8. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein each network interface circuit is a very high speed digital subscriber line (VDSL) interface circuit.